

# Delaware Hunter Education

## Course Offerings and Locations

### Traditional, Live Basic Hunter Education Courses

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

New hunters learn safety, ethics, firearm types, safe gun handling, marksmanship techniques, specialty hunting techniques, wildlife management, wildlife ID, survival etc. Delaware requires hunter education certification via traditional live course or via internet course and field day for all hunters born after 01/01/1967. The courses are recognized in all states and Canadian provinces.

**A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required for participation.**

### New! Online Option for Basic Hunter Education Courses

A new option is now available for students who prefer to complete a portion of their basic hunter education online via the internet. Students can now sign up at [www.hunterexam.com](http://www.hunterexam.com) or [www.hunter-ed.com](http://www.hunter-ed.com) to complete a large part of the knowledge portion of their class. New hunters learn safety, ethics, firearm types, safe gun handling, hunting and marksmanship skills, specialty hunting techniques, wildlife management, wildlife ID, survival etc. *The course and use of the web site is free but there is fee charged by the vendor for certification of successful completion.* Students with certificates in hand must then register and attend a specially designed, “hands-on” field day training session for final Delaware certification. Field day training for online courses includes Delaware laws and regulations, loading ,unloading, safe handling and transporting of firearms; field skills involving blinds, boats and tree stands; zones of fire; obstacle crossing; operation of safeties and shotgun live firing. A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required for participation.

### IBEP Bow hunter Education

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Though not a Delaware requirement, this special course is required in many other states and provinces for bowhunters. Participants in this course learn bowhunting methods, game trailing and recovery, field experience, Bowhunting safety, reading game signs, safe use of tree stands, calling, field dressing, and more. Youths under the age of 14 must attend with a responsible adult. Live firing and a signed release of liability and advance online registration are required for participation at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov).

### Young Waterfowlers Program

**Participation is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

Always a favorite, these courses (approx. 20 hours) provide youths between the ages of 12 – 16, exposure to the complete waterfowl experience. Everything from waterfowl ID, biology,

blind construction and safety, decoy use, duck calling, camouflage technique, boating safety, bird recovery, laws and regulations, language and tradition, firearms, ammo and equipment will be covered. The course includes basic hunter education and finishes with an actual mentored waterfowl hunt. Participants must be hunter education qualified prior to hunting. A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required for participation.

### **Successful Hunting with Muzzle Loading Rifle**

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

Hunting with a single shot muzzleloader is challenging. Well-honed hunting and superior marksmanship skills are needed in order to effectively harvest game with a single shot. Moving quickly beyond the basics, this course provides information on precision sighting, range and marksmanship technique, trajectory and ballistics. Stress will be on the latest trends in muzzleloader technology, updated safety information and explanation of new projectiles.

**Note:** This course offers a proficiency qualification segment recognized for certification in the Delaware Master Hunter program. Students wishing to participate in proficiency qualification (3 shot, 3.5" group at 50 yds) should bring their own pre-sighted muzzleloader rifle, sandbags, powder and bullets with them. Eye and hearing protection required. Shooting vices, cradles and clamping devices are not permitted. A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required for participation.

### **Hand Gun Hunting for Deer**

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

Delaware's newest method specific deer season now allows hunting of whitetail deer with certain handguns. This course offers a hunting oriented re-visitation of all essential fundamentals of handgun shooting and sighting in, information on techniques, equipment and safety.

**Note:** This course offers a proficiency qualification segment recognized for certification in the Delaware Master Hunter program. Students wishing to participate in optional proficiency qualification (3 shot, 3" group at 25 yds) should bring their own pre-sighted, deer legal handgun, sandbag or rest, and ammunition with them. Eye and hearing protection required. A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required.

### **Precision Firearms For Large Game**

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

Delaware hunters often hunt large game not only within but also outside of our state boundaries. This course concentrates on the hunting use of precision, deer legal, scoped long guns and includes rifles, even though their use is only permitted outside of Delaware. Subjects covered will include, shooting fundamentals, equipment, optics, ammunition, transportation of firearms, internal, external and terminal ballistics, shot placement, missed shot analysis and safety considerations.

**Note:** This course includes a proficiency qualification segment recognized for certification in the Delaware Master Hunter program. Students participating in optional proficiency qualification should bring their own pre-zeroed, deer legal (.243 or larger) scoped shotgun, rifle or muzzleloader, sand bags, and ammunition with them. (Loads exceeding 3500 ft lbs of muzzle

energy may not be used at Ommelanden.) Eye and hearing protection are required. Vices, cradles, clamps, shooting rests are not allowed. A signed release of liability and advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) are required for participation.

### **Mandatory Turkey Education**

**Seating is limited. Confirm course dates. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302)735-3600.**

In addition to complying with other hunter education requirements, Delaware hunters must successfully complete a mandatory, one day turkey hunter education class before they can apply for a public land turkey hunting permit or legally hunt turkeys in Delaware. Successful completion of the course Mandatory Turkey Education on your Hunter Education Card is required for hunting on private land. The Mandatory Turkey Course is a one-day class in which students learn the history of turkeys in Delaware, how to safely hunt turkeys, calling methods used for hunting turkeys, and turkey identification. Turkey hunters may also elect to take the Division-approved online turkey course at [Wildturkeyhuntingcourse.com](http://Wildturkeyhuntingcourse.com). After completion of the course, a certificate of completion must be sent to the Hunter Education Office so that student records can be updated. Public land hunters will still have to apply for the permit lottery by sending in the application form found in the Hunting & Trapping Guide. Successful applicants for public land hunts will be sent a permit for a 6 day hunt on a public area.

### **Mandatory Trapper Education- Ommelanden Hunter Education Training Center**

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

Trapper education is a mandatory prerequisite for purchasing a Delaware trapping license for all persons born after January 1, 1978. Class and Field work sessions include trapping history, heritage and ethics, furbearing animals of Delaware, trapping equipment, boating safety, hypothermia, practical water sets, hands-on instruction, how tides affect sets, proper skinning techniques, fur handling and how to market furs. Along with the one-day class, Delaware accepts an online course from [Trappered.com](http://Trappered.com) (The Kansas Furbearer Course). After completion of the course, a certificate of completion must be sent to the Hunter Education Office so that student records can be updated.

### **Delaware Master Hunter**

**Seating is limited. Advance online registration at [www.fw.delaware.gov](http://www.fw.delaware.gov) is required for all courses or call (302) 735-3600.**

The Master Hunter Program is not for beginners. Aspiring Master Hunters can increase their knowledge and enjoyment of hunting by attending this two day course which provides advanced, detailed education and up-to-date information on numerous aspects of hunting. In addition to improving their own hunting, Delaware Master Hunters benefit from the opportunity to share knowledge, network with and learn from their hunting peers. As advocates, stewards and ambassadors for hunting, with a goal of continuing the heritage of responsible hunting and insuring its future for generations to come, Delaware Master Hunters raise public awareness of the value and necessity of qualified, competent hunters and hunting as a wildlife management tool. This initial core-conservation course is a two day experience covering all phases of hunting, conservation, management, heritage and operations of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.